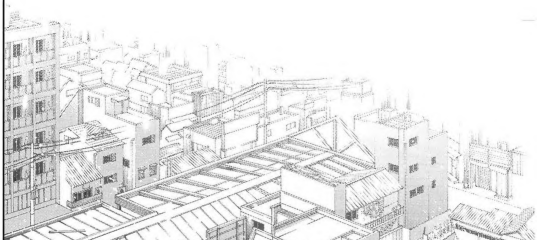
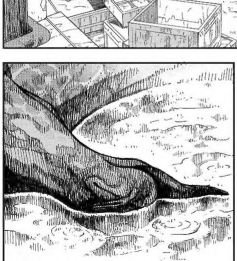
A CALM CRADLE
Design Anim

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG

SMACK
AAAAAH!
I...
I FOUND YOU...





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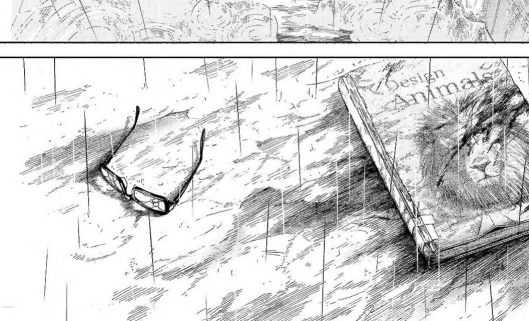
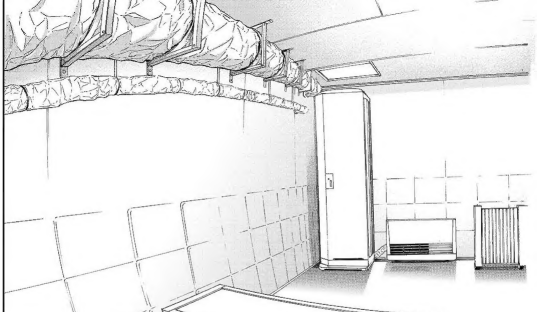

Design
Animals

THE HELL WERE YOU THINK-ING?

YOUR MISSION WAS TO PROTECT THE OKITE-NEMURU.
I'M SORRY.
HATE TO TELL IT TO THE KID, THOUGH...
I'M OUT OF OPTIONS.



TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT.
YOU OKAY?

ABOUT YOUR FRIEND...
POUR
POUR

IS SAIJOU SHIZUKU SAFE?!
WH-WHAT ABOUT SHIZUKU?!
SLAM
DON'T WORRY.
CLICK
NEITHER YOU NOR SAIJOU WERE INFECTED WITH THE PARASITE.
THUNK

BUT, TOKIJI-KUN...
WE HAVE NO MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL TO SAVE HIM.
I'M SORRY...
WHY...
WHY DID HE EVEN DO THAT?
IT'S BECAUSE HE GOT INVOLVED WITH ME...

YOU WERE RIGHT, AYAGIRI-SAN.
I WAS WRONG.
I JUST
WANTED TO BE NORMAL
BUT
I'M NOT NORMAL...
AND...
THAT'S WHY TOKIO DIED

SLAM
WOULD YOU STOP WHINING?
IF YOU WANT TO REMEMBER HIM BY WHINING ABOUT IT, GO WRITE A GODDAMN BLOG OR SOMETHING.
THEY WERE THE ONES WHO DROVE TOKIJI-KUN TO HIS DEATH.
AND I'LL SHOW YOU THAT WE MEAN IT.
WE'LL DO ANYTHING TO DEFEAT THEM.
WE AT EXTERNAL INFORMATION WILL NEVER FORGIVE THEM.

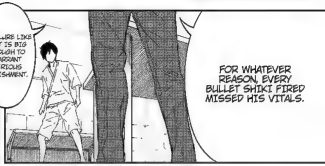
THIS
IS

YES...
TOKIJI-KUN IS STILL ALIVE.

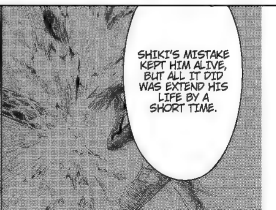
NO WAY...

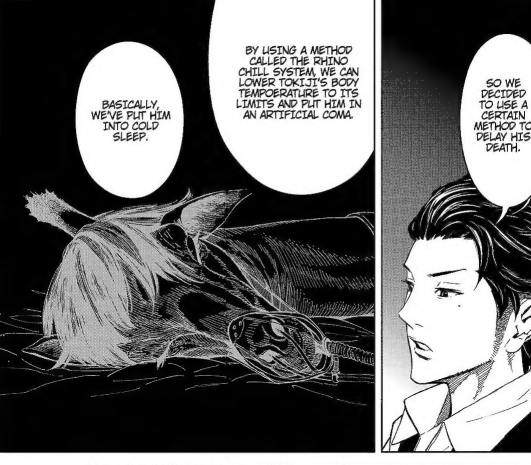
HE'S ALIVE?

A FAILURE LIKE THAT IS BIG ENOUGH TO WARRANT SERIOUS PUNISHMENT.


FOR WHATEVER REASON, EVERY BULLET SHIKI FIRED MISSED HIS VITALS.

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL AN INFECTED PERSON DIES.

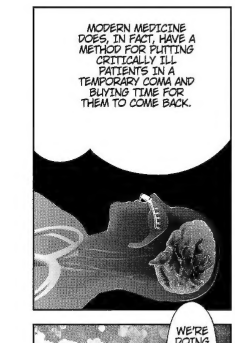

SHIKI'S MISTAKE KEPT HIM ALIVE, BUT ALL IT DID WAS EXTEND HIS LIFE BY A SHORT TIME.

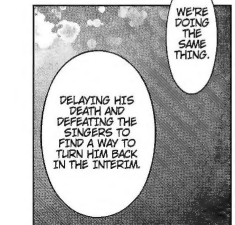

BASICALLY, WE'VE PUT HIM INTO COLD SLEEP.
BY USING A METHOD CALLED THE RHINO CHILL SYSTEM, WE CAN LOWER TOKIJI'S BODY TEMPOERATURE TO IT'S LIMITS AND PUT HIM IN AN ARTIFICIAL COMA.
SO WE DECIDED TO USE A CERTAIN METHOD TO DELAY HIS DEATH.

IS TOKIJI GOING TO SURVIVE?
TH-THEN,
HE'S NOT GOING TO GO BACK TO HOW HE WAS.
NO, ALL WE'RE DOING IS DELAYING HIS DEATH.
AND KEEPS HIM FROM GETTING ANY CLOSER TO DEATH.
THIS STATE OF HIBERNATION VASTLY LOWERS THE AMOUNT OF CELLULAR ACTIVITY

BUT THERE'S GOOD ODDS THEY KNOW HOW TO TURN HIM BACK.

MODERN MEDICINE DOES, IN FACT, HAVE A METHOD FOR PUTTING CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS IN A TEMPORARY COMA AND BUYING TIME FOR THEM TO COME BACK.





WE'RE DOING THE SAME THING.

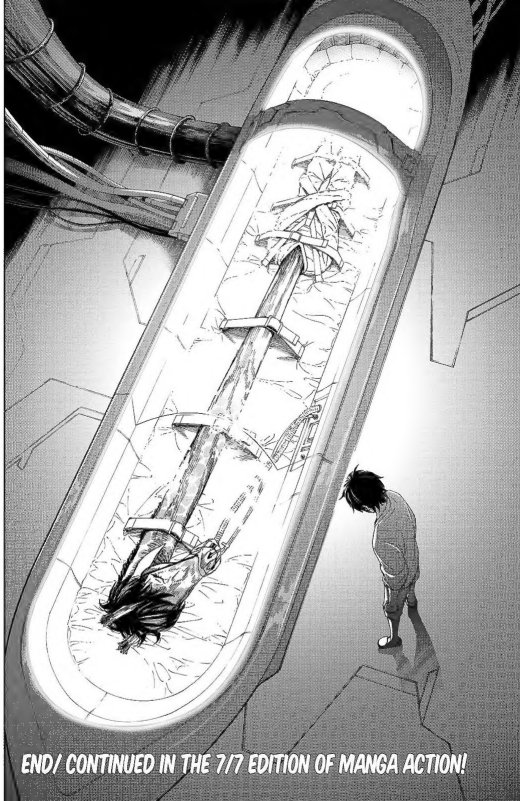
DELAYING HIS DEATH AND DEFEATING THE SINGERS TO FIND A WAY TO TURN HIM BACK IN THE INTERIM.

YES...

THE ONES WHO CREATED THIS PARASITE,

THE SINGERS.

I-IS THAT
REALLY POSSIBLE?
DOES IT MATTER IF IT IS OR NOT?
DON'T YOU
HAVE SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO DO, NO MATTER WHAT?


END/ CONTINUED IN THE 7/7 EDITION OF MANGA ACTION!